Contact: Sgt. Gabriel Trevino Date: 09-22-04 Release No. 04-129

News Release

OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTING

On September 22, 2004, off-duty Officer Abel Garcia, a five-year veteran, was working in an off-duty status and in plain clothes at 5470 W. Military Dr. Officer Garcia was called to apartment #2805 for a report of an evicted couple criminally trespassing. When Officer Garcia arrived at the apartment, he confronted the couple and identified himself as a San Antonio Police Officer. During the investigation process, Officer Garcia was involved in a physical confrontation with the male suspect. During the struggle, one shot was fired and subsequently struck the suspect in the left shoulder area. After being shot, the suspect was able to be taken into custody. The suspect was transported to Wilford Hall, where he remains under guard while he's treated. Officer Garcia was not injured in the struggle. The suspect's identity is being withheld pending formal charges.

The San Antonio Police Department Shooting Team is handling the investigation and will submit their findings to the Police Chief Albert Ortiz and the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. As per policy, Officer Garcia will be placed on administrative duty while the investigation continues.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE